

**City of Evansville**  
**MAYORAL PROCLAMATION**

**ARBOR DAY 2019**

**WHEREAS**, Julius Sterling Morton, who later became U.S. Secretary of Agriculture under President Grover Cleveland, first proposed a special day for planting trees in Nebraska in 1872; and

**WHEREAS**, Arbor Day was the first environmental awareness recognition in the United States and has been celebrated for 147 years; and

**WHEREAS**, trees are a renewable resource providing us with wood for our homes, fuel for our fires, paper, and countless other wood products; and

**WHEREAS**, trees improve the visual aesthetics of our neighborhoods, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants, and provide bird and other wildlife habitat; and

**WHEREAS**, Evansville has been named a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation, in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service, for eighteen consecutive years, from 2001 through 2018; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Evansville, along with community volunteers, will plant a variety of trees in the public terraces throughout the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will again donate 250 native trees to be distributed by volunteers to encourage residential plantings; and

**WHEREAS**, environmental sustainability is incorporated throughout the current Evansville Smart Growth Comprehensive Plan.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Mayor Bill Hurtley, do hereby proclaim Friday, April 26, 2019, as Arbor Day in the City of Evansville. I encourage citizens to enthusiastically support stewardship of our natural resources. Further, I urge Evansville residents to plant and nourish trees to enhance the quality of life in our community for generations.

Dated this 9<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2019.

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William C. Hurtley, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Judy Walton, City Clerk

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